European Vegetation Archive

Data Request Form

To obtain data from the European Vegetation Archive (EVA), including the ReSurveyEurope Database, please first enquire the EVA database administrator Ilona Knollová (ikuzel@sci.muni.cz) whether the data that meet your needs are available. If they are, please fill in the form below and submit it to Ilona or another member of the EVA Coordinating Board (or ReSurveyEurope Board if you ask for data from the ReSurveyEurope Database).

- Applicant's name:

  Andraž Čarni

- Applicant's institutional address:

  Jovan Hadži Institute of Biology, Research Centre of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts, Ljubljana, Slovenia

- Applicant's e-mail:

  andraz.carni@zrc-sazu.si

- Project title:

  Classification and phytosociological characterization of *Fraxinus angustifolia* forests in Europe

- Are you asking for core EVA data (non-repeated vegetation surveys) or for ReSurveyEurope data (repeated vegetation surveys)?

  Core EVA data

- Brief description of the aims and methods of the study:

  Fraxinus angustifolia forests have been the subject of several comprehensive, large scale, analyses in the past (Biurrun et al., 2016, 2025; Douda et al., 2016; Koljanin et al., 2023). However, there is still no consensus regarding either the number of alliances or the underlying principles of their classification. Consequently, different authors have proposed divergent classification schemes, differing in the number of alliances and the principle of classification (ecologycal or geographical or combination). Those classification had either biogeographically or ecologically differentiated alliances. Another major issue in the classification of these forests are the heavy under sampled parts of Europe. Therefore, a more comprehensive floristic, ecological, and biogeographical understanding of *Fraxinus angustifolia* forests, as well as their assignment to higher syntaxonomic units, is needed, including a clearer delineation of the alliances and associations themselves. An additional problem concerns the association level, as many associations are based on poorly sampled or geographically restricted datasets or were on other hand overlooked due to lack of the data. As a result, their floristic properties remains unclear, and their placement within recently proposed or revised classification systems is often uncertain or inconsistent.

  Undersampled areas will be supplemented using published literature, private databases and relevés collated in the following vegetation season. The resulting dataset

will be resampled to avoid pseudoreplication and then subjected to numerical classification methods to identify the main vegetation groups. For each group, floristic composition, ecological conditions, geographical distribution, and climatic characteristics will be analysed. This analysis will provide a uniform classification system for *Fraxinus angustifolia* forests across Europe with floristic and ecological description.

Literature:

Biurrun, I., Belmonte, J., Sanz-Zubizarreta, I., & Campos, J. A. (2025). Hardwood riparian forests in northern Iberian Peninsula: Classification and diversity patterns. Vegetation Classification and Survey, 6, 141–161.

Biurrun, I., Campos, J. A., García-Mijangos, I., Herrera, M., & Loidi, J. (2016). Floodplain forests of the Iberian Peninsula: Vegetation classification and climatic features. Applied Vegetation Science, 19(2), Article 2. https://doi.org/10.1111/AVSC.12219

Douda, J., Boublík, K., Slezák, M., Biurrun, I., Nociar, J., Havrdová, A., Doudová, J., Aćić, S., Brisse, H., Brunet, J., Chytrý, M., Claessens, H., Csiky, J., Didukh, Y., Dimopoulos, P., Dullinger, S., FitzPatrick, Ú., Guisan, A., Horchler, P. J., … Zimmermann, N. E. (2016). Vegetation classification and biogeography of European floodplain forests and alder carrs. Applied Vegetation Science, 19(1), 147–163. https://doi.org/10.1111/avsc.12201

Koljanin, D., Brujić, J., Čarni, A., Milanović, Đ., Škvorc, Ž., & Stupar, V. (2023). Classification of wetland forests and scrub in the Western Balkans. Diversity, 15(3), 370. https://doi.org/10.3390/d15030370

- Will someone else be involved in data editing or analysis in addition to the applicant?

  Koljanin Dragan, Stupar Vladimir, Škvorc Željko

- Estimated time of delivery of results (e.g., manuscript submission):

  1-2 years

- Geographic area needed (e.g., countries or range of geographic coordinates):

  The widest area possible

- Do you need plots to be georeferenced? If so, what is the minimum accuracy of plot location (in metres or kilometres) needed for your project?

  No

- Vegetation types needed (syntaxa):

  -We would like to analyse the *Fraxinus angustifolia* (syn. *Fraxinus oxycapa*) stands in the whole range of distribution

- Other data selection criteria:

  Any plot with record of *Fraxinus angustifolia* (all subspecies) or a synonym of the species.

- Envisaged publications:

  1-2 phytosociological papers in international journal

- Data deposition. Some journals require data used for the analysis to be stored in a public repository to ensure the repeatability of the analysis. According to EVA Rules, you are not allowed to store the original vegetation-plot data obtained from EVA. However, if you plan to publish in such a journal, you may deposit a reduced EVA-derived dataset that (1) would make it possible to repeat the analysis published in the paper and (2) does not contain any information not used in the analysis. For example, such a dataset can contain only a subset of species (e.g., only angiosperms or only neophytes), or replace species names with codes, or replace species cover values with presences/absences, or remove all the header data, or replace the exact plot coordinates by coarse grid-cell coordinates etc. If you plan to deposit reduced information from vegetation plots, please describe here what might be deposited. If the project developed so that you needed to deposit more information than specified here, you would need to ask specific permission from the Custodians of the EVA databases used in your analysis before the dataset is deposited.

  No plans to deposit.

- Plant trait data from the TRY consortium. If you plan to combine your analysis of vegetation-plot data with plant trait data, you can also request a dataset of 18 gap-filled traits for a large number of plant taxa prepared by the TRY consortium. These traits include Leaf area, Specific leaf area, Leaf fresh mass, Leaf dry matter content, Leaf C, Leaf N, Leaf P, Leaf N per area, Leaf N:P ratio, Leaf delta15N, Seed mass, Seed length, Seed number per reproductive unit, Dispersal unit length, Plant height, Stem specific density, Stem conduit density, and Conduit element length. This dataset can be provided to you by the EVA manager together with the vegetation-plot data. If you use this dataset, you must inform about your project the TRY data contributors who might be potentially interested and invite them as potential co-authors, assuming they will make an intellectual contribution to your paper. The list of the TRY data contributors will be sent to you together with the gap-filled trait dataset.

  Yes

- Specification of the co-authorship arrangements in publications based on the requested data. Note that the EVA Rules recommend that co-authorship is offered to a representative of each database providing data that are particularly important for the project (e.g., a relatively large proportion of the final dataset used in the analyses or data from unique vegetation types or under-represented geographic areas). This database representative should be an expert in the topic of the project (not necessarily the custodian or deputy custodian), and this person should contribute to the project more than just by providing the existing data, e.g. by intellectual contribution to the concept of the paper, preparation of new data, or helping with data analysis, interpretation of the results or writing parts of the paper (see the IAVS Code of Professional Ethics: https://www.iavs.org/page/governance_code-of-proffesional-ethics). The project leader should enable active participation by regularly informing potential co-authors about the progress of the project from its early stage. The project leader should also make final co-authorship arrangements based on the real input of the individual contributors.

  We offer co-authorship to a representative of each EVA database involved in the final tabulation who explicitly declare their interest in this project and is willing to provide intellectual contribution to our work.

- Eligibility of the applicant to receive EVA or ReSurveyEurope data. Specify to which EVA or ReSurveyEurope database the applicant has contributed; if the applicant is not the custodian or deputy custodian of an EVA or ReSurveyEurope database, give a name of a custodian or deputy custodian who supports this data request.

  Andraž Čarni is custodian of SE Europe Forest Database (EU-00–021)

- I agree with the terms of EVA Data Property and Governance Rules as approved on 26 May 2012 (http://euroveg.org/download/eva-rules.pdf).
- If I ask for ReSurveyEurope data, I agree with the terms of ReSurveyEurope Data Property and Governance Rules as approved on 6 April 2022 (http://euroveg.org/download/resurveyeurope-rules.pdf).
- In any result obtained based on EVA core data (non-repeated vegetation surveys), I will cite the EVA report article (Chytrý et al. 2016; https://doi.org/10.1111/avsc.12191). In any result obtained based on the ReSurveyEurope data (repeated vegetation surveys), I will cite the ReSurveyEurope report article as soon as it is published. In addition, I will cite individual source databases used in my project (if possible, in the list of References; if not possible, at least as a list of databases in the electronic supplementary material).
- If I ask for the plant trait data from TRY, I agree to invite to my project the TRY data contributors following the list received from the EVA database manager.

Ljubljana, 26.01.2026

Andraž Čarni